However, to further accelerate the rate of growth, the problems faced by the farmers include lack of adequate credit, high dependence on rainfall, inadequate availability of improved/required variety of seeds, marketing infrastructure, etc.

(b) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Government for increasing production and productivity of various crops, the Government is implementing various crop oriented development programmes including Integrated Cereal Development Programme in rice, wheat and coarse-cereals based cropping system, Intensive Cotton Development Programme, Special Jute Development Programme and Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based cropping system; increasing the supply of inputs including fertilisers, high yielding variety seeds including minikits, credit; extending the irrigation facilities in newer areas, crop insurance besides providing price and marketing support.

(c) The efforts and programmes made by the Government so far have helped in accelerating the rate of growth of productivity of various crops in the country. The rate of growth of yield of foodgrains which was only 1.33 per cent per annum during the period 1967-68 to 1980-81 increased to 2.69 per cent per annum during the period 1980-81 to 1993-94. Similarly the rate of growth of productivity of non-foodgrains and all crops increased to 2.26 and 2.49 percent per annum during 1980-81 to 1993-94 as against 1.19 and 1.28 percent per annum during the earlier period.

Efforts by Agriculture Ministry for Ensuring Employment

2553. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry with the joint efforts of Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment and Planning Commission has drawn up some programme to ensure employment to all by 2002 A.D.;

(b) if so the details thereof with the amount involved;

(c) whether this programme is to be implemented through States and Union Territories; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The Ministry of Agriculture has not drawn up any programme to ensure employment to all by 2002 A.D.

(b) to (d) In the light of reply at (a) above question does not arise.

Minimum Support Price for Copra

2554. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala had written for minimum support price for Copra during the year 1994-95;

(b) the date on which the Kerala Government had written;

(c) the date on which the announcement of minimum support price for Copra was announced by the Central Government; and

(d) the reason for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the comments of the government of Kerala on the recommendations of the Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP) on Price Policy for Copra for 1995 season were received on 27th January, 1995. Subsequently three communications were received from the Government of Kerala in this regard respectively on 13th March, 1995, 1st April, 1995 and 17th May, 1995.

(c) The Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for the fair average quality of milling copra and ball copra for 1995 season were announced by the Government of India on 23rd May, 1995.

(d) There was some delay in the announcement of MSPs of copra for 1995 season. Some administrative issues caused delay in taking these decisions.

Reservation of J & K Students in Professional Colleges

2555. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: